***The Bluest Eye***

**Toni Morrison**

**11AP Language & Composition**

Synopsis - Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays every day for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in. Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly starts to disintegrate in the face of adversity and strife. A powerful examination of our obsession with beauty and conformity, Toni Morrison’s virtuosic first novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized her writing.

Tasks –

1. While reading, fill out *The Bluest Eye* graphic organizer. This will help you to organize your thoughts and ideas as well as to track Morrison’s style of writing throughout the four sections of the text (Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer).

Due date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. After reading the novel, you will write a well-developed essay in which you analyze the stylistic choices that help Toni Morrison convey her overall message. You should focus on her use of descriptive analogies, important historical references, and varied sentence structure.

Due date (on *Turnitin.com*):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guidelines:**

* Please HIGHLIGHT your thesis statement in **bold** or *italics*.
* Use specific textual evidence from the novel in order to support your thesis/claim.
* Use the “Elements of Style Checklist” as well as any other supplemental class materials in order to help you write your response.
* Paper must be typed in Times New Roman 12-point font, including a title and the use of proper MLA format (both heading, header, and in-text citations).